

CLAIMS

1. (canceled)

2. (canceled)

3. (canceled)

4. (canceled)

5. (canceled)

6. (canceled)

7. (canceled)

8. (currently amended) A thatch roofing system comprising:

thatch roofing members each comprising thatch elements connected to a mounting member in a manner whereby said roofing member thatch elements present exposed roofing member free ends having a lowermost row;

eave members each comprising thatch elements connected to a linear backer member in a manner whereby said eave member thatch elements have eave member free ends defining an exposed surface;

corner eave members each comprising thatch elements connected to a non-linear backer member in a manner whereby said corner eave thatch elements have corner eave member free ends defining a non-planar exposed surface;

whereby said eave members and said corner eave members are adapted to be attached beneath said thatch roofing members such that said exposed surfaces of said eave member free ends and said corner member free ends align with said lowermost rows, and wherein said exposed surfaces of said corner member free ends align with said exposed surfaces of some of said eave members, such that the combination of said eave members, said corner eave members and said thatch roofing members makes said thatch roofing members appear to be thicker than in actuality.

9. (original) The system of claim 8, wherein said backer members are rigid.

10. (original) The system of claim 8, wherein said thatch elements are composed of a synthetic material.

11. (original) The system of claim 8, wherein said exposed surfaces of said eave members are generally planar.

12. (canceled)

13. (canceled)

14. (canceled)

15. (currently amended) A method of forming a thatch roof on a roof with eaves and corners comprising the steps of:

providing thatch roofing members, corner eave members and eave members, said thatch roofing members each comprising thatch elements connected to a mounting member in a manner whereby said roofing member thatch elements present exposed roofing member free ends having a lowermost row, said corner eave members each comprising thatch elements connected to a non-linear backer member and said eave members each comprising thatch elements connected to a linear backer member in a manner whereby said eave member thatch elements present exposed eave member free ends to define a surface and said corner eave member thatch elements present exposed corner eave member free ends to define a non-planar surface;

attaching said eave members to said eaves such that said surfaces defined by said eave member free ends extend along said eaves and attaching said corner eave members to said corners such that said surfaces defined by said corner eave member free ends extend across said corners;

attaching said thatch roofing members to said roof above said corner eave members and said eave members such that said lowermost rows of said roofing member free ends align with said surface defined by said eave member free ends and with said surface defined by said corner eave member free ends, such that said exposed corner eave member free ends and said eave member free ends combine with said roofing member free ends to create the illusion of said thatch roofing members having a thickness equal to the combination of said thatch roofing members and said eave members and said corner eave members.

16. (canceled)

17. (original) The method of claim 15, wherein said eave members are attached to said eaves such that said eave member backer members are oriented generally vertically and said eave member thatch elements extend outwardly from said eaves in a downwardly sloping manner.

18. (original) The method of claim 15, further comprising the step of forming said thatch elements of synthetic materials.

19. (new) The system of claim 8, wherein said backer members of said eave members are linear and said backer members of said corner eave members are non-linear.

20. (new) The system of claim 19, wherein said backer members of said corner eave members are curved.

21. (new) The system of claim 19, wherein said backer members of said corner eave members are angled.

22. (new) The system of claim 19, wherein said exposed surfaces of said corner eave members each extend over a 90 degree radius.

23. (new) The system of claim 19, wherein said exposed surfaces of said corner eave members each extend over a 90 degree angle.